

Attorney Docket No.: **UMD-0038**
Inventors: **Kiron M. Das**
Serial No.: **09/779,689**
Filing Date: **February 8, 2001**
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REMARKS

Claims 12-14 and 17-22 are pending in this application. Claims 17-22 have been canceled. Claim 12 has been amended. No new matter has been added by this amendment. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of these amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 12-14 and 17-22 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. The Examiner has acknowledged that the specification is enabling for a diagnostic method for detecting ulcerative colitis and inflammatory bowel disease in the colon comprising detecting CEP-hTM5 complexes with antibodies against CEP or hTM5. It is suggested that the specification does not reasonably provide enablement for a diagnostic method for detecting inflammatory bowel disease or diseases associated with inflammatory bowel disease comprising detecting any CEP-hTM5 complexes in any tissue by any method. The Examiner further suggests that the claims read upon at least 35 conditions or disease outside the enabled scope of ulcerative colitis and inflammatory bowel disease.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with these rejections, however in an earnest attempt to facilitate allowance,

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claims 17-22 have been canceled and claim 12 has been amended to reflect the enabled subject matter as acknowledged by the Examiner.

Claim 12 has been amended to recite a diagnostic method for detecting inflammatory bowel disease and ulcerative colitis. Support for this amendment can be found throughout the specification and specifically at claim 22 as-filed.

Claim 12 has been further amended to recite the detection of CEP-hTM5 complexes with antibodies against CEP or hTM5. Support for this amendment can be found throughout the specification and specifically on page 13 at lines 14-15, Example 7 on page 15, and Table 2 on page 18.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the foregoing comprises a full and complete response to the Office Action of record. Accordingly,

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favorable reconsideration and subsequent allowance of the pending claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: **May 12, 2004**

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